

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 2019, November 30, 1957

NEW ROLE FOR OLD SHAKEY

Liverpool theatre which will have special stage shows for the boys and girls of Merseyside

This month has seen the re-opening of a fine theatre in Liverpool, and it is welcome news that it will give special shows for young people. The moving spirits in this new enterprise are two Americans. One is Sam Wanamaker, an actor of stage, film, and TV fame; the other is Anna D. Wiman, who runs shows in London's West End.

Here is the story of this brave venture in the great city on the Mersey, together with a special message to CN readers from Mr. Wanamaker.

ONE day last year Sam Wanamaker arrived in Liverpool to play at a theatre club. This club was using one of the many old theatres which have had to close down in recent years through lack of support, but he thought what a fine place it was, and he could see there were great possibilities for it.

Now, Sam Wanamaker is convinced that people still want to see plays performed on the stage, and like many other great actors, he has long had ambitions to run a theatre of his own. He has also felt that many people stay away from the theatre only because they have never had much encouragement to visit one.

BIG CHANCE

During his visit to the Liverpool club he thought of many exciting plans. And not long afterwards came the news that the club had gone out of business. Here was Sam Wanamaker's big chance, and he took it.

With another American who is in the show business in this country, Anna Deere Wiman, he took a lease of the old building, and started an enterprise called

(from the initials of their surnames) W. W. Productions. In former days the theatre had been called the



Sam Wanamaker in his theatre

Shakespeare, but it was affectionately known round Merseyside as Old Shakey.

They brought in a stage designer and interior decorator, Robert Lush, to make the most of the romantic splendours of the building—the glittering chandeliers and the little paintings in the wall panels—and soon the whole place was looking wonderful in a gleaming new coat of white paint. It gleamed with enthusiasm, too!

They have called it The New Shakespeare, and it is to be much more than just another theatre. It is to be a social centre for all Merseyside. It has a restaurant and coffee bar, a TV room for tired shoppers, and a theatrical library. It even has an art gallery in the basement. In addition to the weekly shows there will be Sunday afternoon concerts of all kinds of music, from jazz to the classics.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

But even all this was not enough for Sam Wanamaker. He intended to make sure that there would be entertainment for the younger generation. He has played to junior audiences in Chicago. "They hung over the balcony and screamed with excitement," he recalled.

But in recalling these exciting occasions he went on, sadly, "To my knowledge there is no permanent Children's Theatre either in this country or in America. It is a terrible failure on our part."

SELECTED FILMS

Well, a big move has been made at Liverpool to put this right. On Fridays at The New Shakespeare Theatre there will be special productions for schools in the morning and selected films in the afternoon. On Saturday mornings a regular stage show will be put on for the boys and girls of Merseyside.

Plays for them are being produced by the Northern Children's Theatre Company from Bradford. There will also be puppet shows and demonstrations, as well as talks for youngsters interested in acting and all the work of putting on plays.

SPECIAL MESSAGE

To CN readers, Mr. Sam Wanamaker sends this special message: "I know there are many youngsters who love the theatre. There are some who love acting and stage work and others who like it for entertainment. I want boys and girls to come to The New Shakespeare and feel that it is their own theatre. They will enjoy the programmes because the plays and films are the ones youngsters like."



It's no use tugging

This little lad finds that he cannot get this dog to come for a walk. A plastic figure over 25 feet high, this appealing terrier is to be placed on top of the Radio Corporation of America Building in Albany, capital of New York State.

EAGLES IN ENGLAND

Although most books give the British haunts of the golden eagle as the wild north of Scotland, these magnificent birds are back in England again, though only as casual visitors.

Nearly two centuries have passed since the golden eagle nested regularly in this country, but in recent years some of these birds have drifted southwards at nesting time. The southward trend has brought them to eyries in Dumfries, on the north side of Solway Firth, within sight of Skiddaw and some of the other mountains in the English Lake District.

One eagle, seen earlier this year, flew round the top of Wrynose Pass and occasionally glided down Little Langdale. There was no doubt it was an eagle, for three buzzards were about at the same time to provide comparison in size, shape, and colouring.

Eagles left Lakeland towards the end of the 18th century. It was

actually on the wild crags around Eskdale that the last Lakeland pair of eagles attempted to "set up house" in 1791. They were white-tailed eagles, a species often confused with the golden eagle, especially as young golden eagles have white tails.

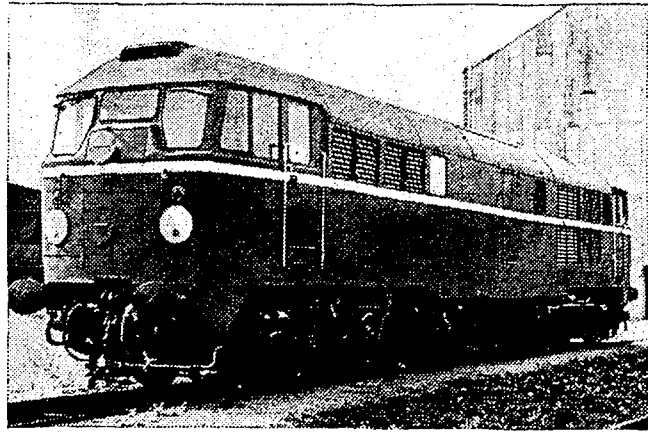
The eagles' fancy for lambs led to their extermination in England. Year after year, Lakeland farmers swarmed up the crags chosen by eagles, or descended to the eyries from above, destroying the eggs or the young birds. They were regarded as vermin in Lakeland, where sheep farming was of prime importance.

Borrowdale people were encouraged to go after eagles. Between 1713 and 1765, Crosthwaite parish alone accounted for more than 30 birds. Plainly it was only a matter of time before the birds ceased to nest, and in the case of Borrowdale this was about 1785.

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The scene as a Lancashire Town Crier, Mr. Reginald Cartmell, of Kirkham, announced the opening Children's Programme at Liverpool's New Shakespeare Theatre.



Train-spotters, please note

The 1250 h.p. diesel electric locomotive, D5500, recently delivered to British Railways. It has a driving cab at each end. Built by Brush Traction Limited of Loughborough, it is the first of 20 now being built by this company for working freight trains on the Eastern Region.

GREAT CHANGES AT THE G.P.O.

Recent speeches by the Postmaster-General, the Rt. Hon. Ernest Marples, M.P., indicate that the General Post Office is on the threshold of great changes that will affect us all.

Mechanisation and Automation, the basis of these speeches, will affect the Postal and Telephone services to a degree only vaguely dreamt about before the war. Letters will be sorted by machinery far more quickly than by hand. Trunk telephone calls will be obtainable just by dialling a number instead of asking the operator to get it for you. These kind of changes will save labour and speed up communications.

STANDARD ENVELOPES

Under postal mechanisation you may have a code number and initial instead of a long, complicated address on the envelope, and letters will be sorted by machinery on this code basis.

To make the scheme more effective there may be standard-sized envelopes, for rapid handling of the mail is made much more difficult by having envelopes of varying sizes, which all have to be sorted by hand before passing through the automatic stamp cancelling machines. The importance of this saving in time is realised when we learn that the Post Office is handling some 26 million letters daily.

Furthermore, they could be more easily handled by the electronic sorting machines, one of which is now in full operation at the Southampton Head Post Office. Before long 20 of these huge machines will be working, one in each of the ten big provincial sorting offices, and the other ten in Norwich, where a new building can accommodate them.

At the end of this large-scale experiment the Post Office will be able to make definite plans for mechanised postal sorting throughout the country. But there will never be a machine to replace the postman—to walk along roads, up garden paths, and to decipher

thousands of different kinds of handwriting.

Automation will also be strongly felt in the telephone service. Under the first stage of a vast automation programme which begins on January 1 most telephone calls which now cost 6d., 9d., or 1s. will only cost 3d. The area of this threepenny call will extend from the present 80 square miles to 900 square miles. This has been made possible by the combination of the present 5400 telephone exchanges into 600 charging groups or units. Some 150 million calls a year now handled by operators will be dialled direct.

The second part of the two-stage programme of automation—trunk dialling—begins in Bristol at the end of next year, when Bristolians will be able to dial direct to half the telephone subscribers in the United Kingdom. By 1960 some 40 other towns will be similarly equipped, and in a further ten years three-quarters of all trunk calls will be dialled by subscribers.

It looks as though once again the British Post Office will lead the world.

Prize silversmith



Ian Calvert of Welling, Kent, won first prize for the Silversmith section in an International Apprentices competition in Madrid recently. Here he is seen at work on a silver chalice.

According to Erskine May

By the CN Parliamentary Correspondent

By a happy coincidence the latest (16th) edition of "Erskine May" came out just about the time the present Parliament entered its third session recently.

Erskine May is now a volume of more than 1000 pages which you may have heard described as "the M.P.s' Bible."

Its full title is Sir Thomas Erskine May's Treatise on the Law, Privileges, Proceedings and Usage of Parliament; and it is, in fact, impossible for an M.P. to succeed at Westminster unless this famous work is part of his equipment.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE

Sir Thomas was a famous Clerk of the House of Commons in the early Victorian Parliaments. He published the first edition of the work which has come down to us under his name in 1844. In those days there were only 14 Rules, or Standing Orders, of the House, although there were many precedents for decisions taken right back through our Parliamentary history.

By the end of last century there were about 100 Standing Orders, and today there are many more.

Sir Thomas classified everything for easy reference. All the picturesque ceremonies are described clearly in *essential* detail; and the section on Privilege, and the light thrown on ancient custom, are quite fascinating.

REASONABLE TIME

Hardly a week passes without the Speaker ruling "according to Erskine May" on some point of procedure. But there is one subject to which Erskine May makes no direct reference—the length of M.P.s' speeches!

The other day Mr. Ellis Smith, one of the M.P.s for Stoke City, asked Mr. Speaker Morrison whether he thought 15, 20, or more minutes to be a reasonable time for a speech.

The Speaker gave a reply which itself could be taken as the model for a speech—it was terse, brief, pithy, witty, and sympathetic. "Brevity," he remarked, "is probably the one attribute of a good speech which is within the power and ability of us all."

EXPRESSING DISPLEASURE

The longest speeches in the House are usually made by Ministers and Opposition leaders from the two front benches, 50 or 60 minutes being the average. Back-benchers usually confine themselves to about 20 minutes.

There is no rule about it, provided the speaker keeps within accepted practice and does not infringe the rules of debate. Of course, the House has its own methods of expressing displeasure with a long-winded and tedious speaker!

But the Member who can bring his colleagues and rivals rushing from their dinner into the chamber to hear him—that is the man who can be regarded as having conquered not only Erskine May but Parliament itself!

News from Everywhere

Over 90 trees are to be removed from the Mall in London to allow more room for the rest to grow. About 900 trees are to be planted in the royal parks during the winter.

Recent census figures show that New Zealand has 780,999 people belonging to Church of England, 483,884 Presbyterians, 310,723 Roman Catholics, and 161,823 Methodists.

Mr. Harry Pike, who died recently in the Isle of Wight, started work as special telegraph boy to Queen Victoria when she was in residence at Osborne House.

FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD JUDGE

A Bicester boy, John Harris, will be a judge in the section for Young Farmers' Clubs at the Smithfield Show in December. John, who is 14, is taking a three-year farming course at Burford Grammar School.

The National Book League's exhibition of 500 Books for Children will be on view at 7 Albemarle Street, London, W.1 until January 11, 1958. It will then go on tour.

HAPPY LANDING

A car which skidded beside the River Saone in France landed on a fishing boat. Firemen lifted it off and the driver drove away unhurt.

The National Coal Board has sunk 100 test bore holes in South Derbyshire as part of a scheme to open a new coalfield estimated to contain 100 million tons.

The oldest American Civil War veteran, Walter Williams, recently celebrated his 115th birthday. He served with the Confederate Army.

VETERAN TREE

A New Forest oak uprooted in a recent gale was thought to be 1000 years old.

The exhibition of paintings by Sir Gerald Kelly, reviewed in last week's C.N., will be on view at the Glasgow Art Galleries and Museum, Kelvingrove, from mid-December to mid-January.

The whooping cranes have left Canada for their winter home in Texas. When last counted there were only 26 of these birds. A new count will be made when they arrive in Texas next month.

Owing to the shortage of nurses in New South Wales, a group of hospitals there have started a Nurse Immigration scheme.

CATS ON PARADE

Hundreds of cats of all kinds will be on parade on November 28 at the National Cat Club's show in the Horticultural (New) Hall, Westminster. The show is to be televised.



and the future!

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PHONE CALLS IN MID-AIR

Airliner passengers heading across the United States will soon be able to phone friends and relatives in any part of the country, letting them know their plane's progress and its estimated time of arrival.

On pressing a button on the airborne telephone, a passenger is automatically put through to the operator on a special "aviation exchange" on the ground, and the required number is obtained.

So far a dozen aircraft have been experimentally fitted with this new air-ground radio telephone service. It works two ways, for it also allows passengers to receive calls from their friends below.

The system employs a special lightweight two-way radio made by the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

OLD ENGINE RETIRES

A James Watt engine built about 1790 is to be preserved in the Mining Department of the Heriot-Watt College, Edinburgh.

It is named Old Ben, after a man who worked with it for a long period, and for the past 50 years it has been in use at Highhouse Colliery, Auchinleck.

When members of the Watt Club visited Highhouse in 1952 they expressed a wish to preserve the engine after its working days were done. The National Coal Board agreed to dismantle it and transport it to Edinburgh.

HIS HOME-MADE CAR

A sports car made by Michael Slinn has gained him the Pegasus prize awarded by Chesterfield Secondary School for initiative and imagination. A two-seater made of spares from cars which had been scrapped, it has a 7 h.p. engine and does 55 miles to the gallon. The car was built in a year at a cost of £60, and Michael now uses it to travel home to Chesterfield at weekends from Hull University, where he is studying mathematics.

First winner



The first award of a new medal was made the other day to Professor F. C. Williams at the Royal Society of Arts for his work in electrical engineering. The medal commemorated the 200th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin's election to membership of the Society.

BRAVE YOUNG CORPORAL

While in a Boys' Brigade camp at Hedderwick, near Dunbar last July, Corporal Thomas Campbell heard that some of his friends, bathing about a mile-and-a-half away, had been carried away by an under-current. He ran all the way across the sands and then, despite warnings, plunged into heavy seas.

Three boys had already been brought to safety, and Thomas managed to reach a fourth, but he was soon in great difficulties himself, and one of the officers swam out to him.

Big waves separated them while they were trying to bring the lad ashore, and then, making yet another attempt at rescue, Thomas was seized with cramp.

Himself nearly exhausted, the officer swam to him, and then, supporting each other, the two managed to reach shallow water before they collapsed.

Their gallant rescue attempt had failed, but they had done all that was humanly possible. And now Corporal Thomas Campbell, of the 173rd Glasgow Company, has been awarded the Boys' Brigade Cross for Heroism.

NINE-YEAR-OLD ORGANIST

Nine-year-old Bernard Newman, son of the Vicar of Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon, has been appointed organist of the parish church at Wraxhall, a mile or two away. Bernard has played several times for services at his father's church.

Woolly baby

Baby yaks are born warm and woolly like this one at Whipsnade Zoo, seen here with one of its parents when it was only a week old.



LIFE IN THE NEXT 100 YEARS

A forecast of changes that may take place in the next 100 years was made in a recent address to the Royal Society of Arts by its Chairman, the distinguished architect Sir Alfred Bossom.

Among his predictions were: No difficulty will be found in feeding the world's future population of 6000 to 8000 million people. Scientific methods of cultivation will cause crops to increase immeasurably.

Almost every house will have a small vertically-rising aeroplane which will fly in specially radar-defined paths in the sky.

Housework will be done mostly by ultra labour-saving devices, and power for lighting, heating, cooking, and air-conditioning will be picked up by an aerial from some central generating station.

Road vehicles, too, will similarly pick up their energy from a distant power generator, and all cars will have wireless telephones.

Heat from the sun, energy from the hydrogen of the seven seas, and nuclear power will all be harnessed for man's benefit.

Human beings, helped perhaps by a common language, will become more co-operative and less aggressive towards each other, and this will develop into a world-wide movement towards faith in the Creator—indeed, towards a tremendous religious revival.

Hopeful words, and some of us may even live to see them come true if—as Sir Alfred thinks not impossible—some medical genius discovers how to re-invigorate our tired vital organs and muscles, and so prolong our life.

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ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

HOSPITAL HUMOUR

Story of a great surgeon

Not many stories about hospitals are bubbling with humour, but the BBC tell me this is the case with Laughing Crusader, the dramatised biography of Sir Robert Jones, the surgeon, in Children's Hour on Sunday.

In the second half of last century to be born a cripple, or to become one by accident or disease, was a thing to be accepted. No one bothered much about it, and the crude surgery of those days was incapable of providing worthwhile treatment. Then there came a man who thought differently.

He was Robert Jones, born in London of Welsh parents. The turning point in his life was when he was apprenticed to his uncle, Dr. Hugh Owen Thomas, of Liverpool. Although himself a qualified surgeon, Thomas came of a family of bone-setters—people who by some gift were able sometimes to relieve a crippled condition.

Robert Jones was a big man in every sense, with a great sense of humour and a lovable nature which made him a favourite with all kinds of patients, especially children.

An important influence in his life was a chance meeting with a nursing sister, herself a cripple, who was struggling to run a children's hospital she had created. Later to become Dame Agnes Hunt, she pioneered the practical use of Sir Robert Jones's ideas.

Today, our orthopaedic hospitals, such as the Liverpool County Hospital for Children at Heswall, which Sir Robert helped to found, perpetuate their memory.

Robert Jones as a boy will be played by Lionel Courtis, as a youth by Alan Rothwell, and as a man by Geoffrey Banks. Madeline Vascher will be heard as Dame Agnes Hunt, and Deryck Guyler will be the narrator.

Shock for Six-Five Special

The BBC say it will be a Shock for Six-Five Special when

Joyce makes her first TV appearance in this popular programme on Saturday. Her name, you see, really is Joyce Shock.

Although this dark-haired girl is



Joyce Shock

now 20, she began singing in public at the age of 12 in a youth club show.

Two months ago, when she was starting her professional singing career, Joyce thought she ought to change her name. "You try to think of a better one," said her agent. She could not.

For the past three years Joyce Shock has been secretary to the popular singer Frankie Vaughan. She also intends to be his sister-in-law.

4000 answers for Steve Race

Steve Race, who is running a competition every Tuesday in Let's Get Together in Associated-Rediffusion, tells me the response is "staggering." Nearly 4000 children recently sent in paintings or sketches of themselves doing what they would like to be doing when they grow up. This week they have been giving their impressions of what they would expect to see

if ever they landed on the moon.

"Their keenness is all the more remarkable," said Steve, "when you remember that many of the entries involve two hours' work or more."

The competitions are now being varied so as to give winning chances to young viewers who are perhaps better at something other than painting and sketching.



Steve Race had a hard job sorting out the entries

ABOARD THE HOLIDAY SPECIAL

A CHILDREN'S pillow fight 25,000 feet above the Mediterranean is one of the exciting episodes to look for in Speedboat 933 in BBC

Children's TV on Friday. It was filmed by cameraman Gerry Pullen when he and Trevor Hill, BBC Children's Hour organiser



Boarding the Holiday Special at Hong Kong

in the North, flew back in September on B.O.A.C.'s Britannia flight Holiday Special, bringing children from the Far East to their schools in Britain.

As I forecast when giving you first news of the story in September, Children's Hour listeners have already heard recordings taken on the flight. Now, on Friday, young viewers get a look-in, too. They can share in what turned out to be quite a jolly journey, although the travellers could not forget that they were going back to another year's work. The party consisted of about forty children, mostly British but including two Japanese, a Chinese boy, and a Portuguese girl.

Among the pictures are shots of an English boy, Michael Lamb, at home in Hong Kong, and Janet Cantopher in Bangkok, before setting out on the long trek by way of Calcutta, Karachi, and Frankfurt.

Viewers will meet the Britannia's Captain Nigel Pelly and members of his crew. Sharing the commentary with John Slater is Stewardess Gladys Gainsboro of Manchester, who has travelled on the Holiday Special for the last two years.

Special music to match up to this high-flying school trip has been composed by Henry Read, who conducts a section of the BBC Northern Orchestra.

Coaster voyage

ALAN VILLIERS, Captain of the Mayflower II, is to take young viewers on a voyage round Britain. His programme, Coasters, which will first be seen in BBC Television late on Thursday evening, December 5, will be repeated in Children's TV at 5 o'clock on the Friday. We shall follow the fortunes of the M.V. Pacific Coast, one of nearly 900 British coasters, 400 of which are at sea at any given moment.

This 1700-ton liner-coaster runs to a definite schedule. The film shows her leaving London Docks under floodlights at night, slipping down the Thames to the Nore, round the South Goodwin lightship, and down the Channel. Crossing the great trade routes, she passes Land's End, works her way across the Irish Sea to Queenstown and Cork, and finally fetches up at Liverpool, the home of many of her crew and of her Master, Captain Joe Beckett, O.B.E.

The commentary is by Anthony Jacobs.

Schools TV

How weather forecasts are prepared is the theme of Dr. J. B. Mason's talk in BBC Schools TV this Wednesday. On Thursday the Spotlight is turned on the old tin plate works at Clydach, near Swansea, where mill hands still practise their ancient craft. Young People at Work, on Friday, deals with farming.

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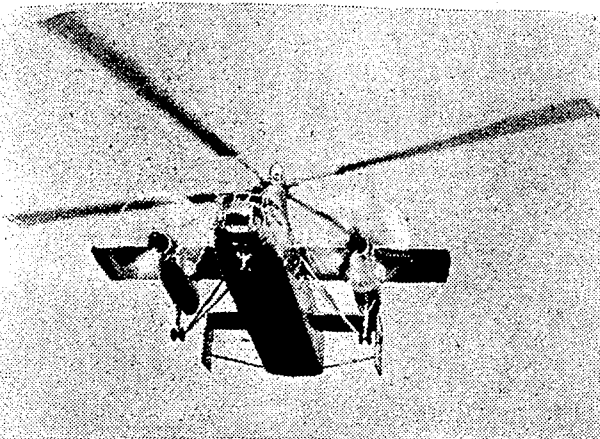
W. 1ST WATCHES
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FRONT AND BACK
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An all-electric miniature Vacuum Cleaner, same principle as a full size model, except that it works for months on two U.2 batteries (total cost 1.2). It gets round corners, cracks and nooks, all tapestries, and is ideal for the table and for removing dirt from all types of cloth. Ideal for cars, clothing, and prize dogs. Only 27/6, post 1/6, with removable dust bag. Batteries obtainable anywhere. Money back if not satisfied.

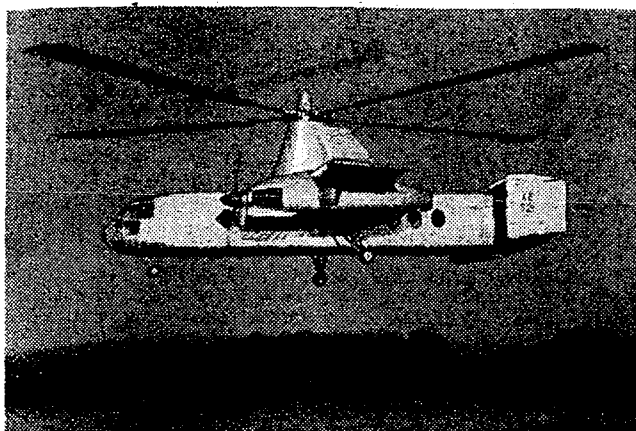
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All the fun of the CASH PRICE 63/-
Knights of old. Waterproof, true-to-life 'grange' patterned construction, and will house 4 to 5 children. The framework is of wood and is easily put together in a few minutes. Complete with full instructions and illumination, it erects indoors and outdoors. Keep your children safely occupied in King Arthur's Castle. The Drawbridge which is workable is only for effect. Cash price 63/-, plus part carr. 3/-, or sent for 5/- bal. by 18 fortnightly pmts. of 2/7. Complete. SUE LANCELOT. Outfit including Helmet, Shield, Tunic, Sword, 21/-, post 2/1.

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AIRLINER WHICH RISES LIKE A HELICOPTER



A view of the aircraft as it takes off



The Fairey Rotodyne in flight

The world's first vertical take-off airliner made its maiden flight recently at White Waltham airfield in Berkshire. It was the Fairey Rotodyne, capable of carrying 48 passengers at nearly 200 m.p.h.

The Rotodyne is powered by two Napier Eland propeller turbines mounted on the plane's wings. For take-off, compressed air from these engines is mixed with fuel and piped into the 90-foot-diameter rotor blades, where it is burned in pressure-jet units at the tips. The power from these jets provides the vertical lift.

At the required height, the power is transferred to the forward-facing propellers, and the main rotor is allowed to freewheel, providing enough lift, with the stub wings, to maintain height. For landing the reverse procedure is used.

Unlike the helicopter, the Rotodyne does not rely on its main rotor for steering, but uses the normal aircraft controls.

Being able to land and take-off in confined spaces, the Rotodyne will be of great value in towns and cities which have no airport.

REAL MINIATURES

An unusual Christmas present has been sent to the Queen by a Japanese artist; it consists of landscapes on grains of rice!

The artist, Shujo Kawai, has been showing his pictures on rice grains at an exhibition in Kobe, Western Japan, and he has sent four of them to the Queen and a similar set to President Eisenhower. To see the pictures, each grain has to be held in tweezers and viewed through a magnifying glass.

Real miniatures, indeed!

GLIDING AT 90 MPH

A British glider in New Zealand is reported to have flown 270 miles in 2 hours 50 minutes, a speed of more than 90 m.p.h. It was described by Mr. Philip Wills, chairman of the British Gliding Association, as "the most startling glider flight in history."

Nurse Felicia of Nigeria

Many young girls think they might like to take up nursing as a career. But when the time comes to decide many of them change their minds.

But such was not the case with Felicia Otubusin from Nigeria. She really meant to be a nurse. But, alas, there was no training hospital anywhere near her home and her parents could not afford to send her all the way to England.

So Felicia decided she would raise the money herself. She became a schoolteacher, saved up £300, packed her bags and came to this country.

Soon she was training at the York County Hospital and her happy disposition made her a favourite both with nurses and patients. She worked so hard that when she was recently presented with her certificate as a State Registered Nurse she also carried off the hospital's highest award for knowledge of the theory and practice of nursing. It was the first time this prize had ever been won by a coloured nurse.

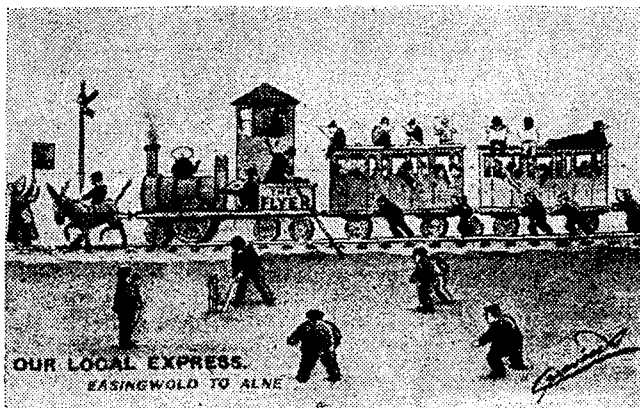
Now she is going to London for a course of midwifery and then back to Nigeria where she hopes to work in a local hospital.

BOUQUET FOR THE A.A. MAN

A Somerset A.A. patrolman was surprised the other day to receive at his roadside box two packets of flower seeds. With the seeds was this letter from an eleven-year-old Leicester girl:

For the last two weeks in August my Mummy and Daddy took my sister and me on holiday to Cornwall. We left home early in the morning and to pass the time away, during the journey, we took down the numbers of all the A.A. boxes we passed. We gave points to the gardens around the boxes. The most points were given to No. 138 . . . We are sending two packets of seeds as a prize.

No doubt the display around Box 138 will be finer than ever next summer.



The Easingwold Express

Prompted by a CN paragraph about the little Easingwold railway, a reader sent us this amusing picture. A postcard issued about half a century ago, it makes gentle fun of this little line which is shortly to close down after more than 60 years of useful service.

ROYAL GIFT TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS

Prince Philip has given a new lecture bench to the Royal Society of Arts, of which he is President. In making the presentation, he said that he hoped it was an improvement on "that old orange-box" from which he had previously spoken. And certainly no one could disagree, for it is a handsome piece of furniture, made of Brazilian rosewood, and has built-in lighting, a clock, and two microphones.

Prince Philip is in complete sympathy with the works and aims of the Royal Society of Arts, which has aptly been described as Britain's Fairy Godmother.

Its full title is the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, and it unceasingly works to this end for the benefit of us all.

An award by the Royal Society of Arts is counted a great honour and is eagerly sought. As far back as 1758 the Duke of Beaufort received a gold medal for sowing acorns over 23 acres of Gloucestershire. In complete contrast, the Society offered a medal for the best shilling box of water-colours. This was gained by a man named Rogers in 1853 and in the next 17 years some eleven million of these boxes were sold.

Prince Albert was elected President of the Royal Society of

Arts in 1842, and later, to commemorate his Presidency, the Prince Albert Gold Medal was instituted. The first man to receive it was the great postal reformer Rowland Hill, in 1864. It was Rowland Hill who introduced the penny post.

The wide range of the Society's interests is shown by the present programme of lectures at its headquarters in John Adam Street, London. Vitamins, William Blake, Research in Bees and Bee-keeping, Exploring the Deep Ocean Floor, Industrial Power of the Future, these are among the diverse subjects of lectures to be heard by Fellows this winter.

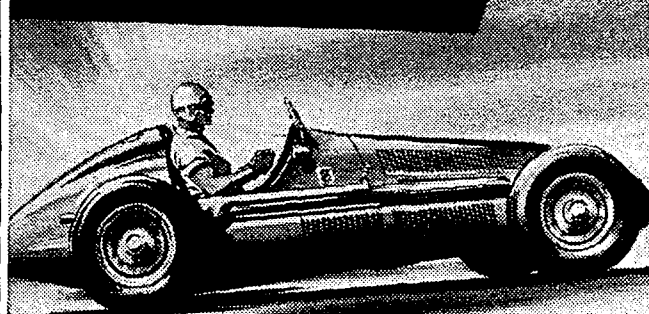
Fellows of the Royal Society of Arts number several thousand and are to be found in all walks of life and in all parts of the world.

FREEDOM OF SCOTLAND

A Norwegian animal-lover has brought an eagle with an eight-foot wing-span by ship to Scotland, where eagles are protected. He used to be a master potter, but gave up his work to devote himself to helping animals, and he bought the eagle to set it free from captivity.

He owns an island off the south coast of Norway, and keeps it as a sanctuary for animals of all kinds.

WHAT'S MISSING?



5A11

What's missing from this racing car? Something the driver really needs! No car would be complete without one—just as no cycle is complete without a Sturme-Archer Gear. With a Sturme-Archer Gear to give you a push, you sail up the steepest hills. For Sturme-Archer Gears are made for the toughest service—though small and light in weight they're world-famous for their fine performance. So when you go to choose your cycle you'll know just what to look out for. See that it's fitted with a Sturme-Archer Gear and your cycle will be complete!



It's the steering wheel that's missing.

No cycle is complete without a

STURMEY

ARCHER

GEAR

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars . London . EC4
NOVEMBER 30 1957

IDEA FOR A HOLIDAY

MANY corners of this green and pleasant land are still a sorry sight, sadly marred by rubbish dumps, groups of broken-down huts, and other relics of wartime camps. The cost of clearance is heavy and so these eyesores remain, a national disgrace.

But something must be done, and we can therefore applaud the idea which Mr. Michael Dower, a London County Council planning officer, put into practice earlier this year while he was still at Cambridge University.

Mr. Dower and five other undergraduates spent part of their holidays clearing a derelict gun site in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. In ten days they removed the ruins of huts, cleared refuse, and made the land once more fit for grazing. Pembrokeshire County Council gladly met their modest travel and living expenses.

It was a fine, public-spirited effort, and it has been duly praised in the annual report for the Council for the Preservation of Rural Wales.

Having no intention of resting on his laurels, Mr. Dower is planning ahead for next year, and hopes to get other groups of volunteers prepared to spend part of their holidays as cleaning-up squads in various parts of the country.

It is his hope, too, that many people outside the universities will volunteer to take what might well be called a Helping-Hand Holiday.



OUR HOMELAND

The Editor's Table

THE HIGHLANDS DOWN UNDER

EARLIER this year a Canadian businessman, Mr. T. McEwan, bought an oil painting at a sale believing it to be a Scottish landscape. But his wife found an inscription on the canvas: On the road to the Chalkins, Whare Flat, New Zealand. P. McIntyre, 1905.

The McEwans made inquiries and eventually got in touch with the painter's son, Peter McIntyre, one of New Zealand's official war artists.

From the details sent to him, Peter McIntyre wrote a letter confirming the painting to be the work of his father, a Scot who had emigrated to New Zealand. He went on to say that, possessing very few of his father's works, he would appreciate a copy of it.

As a result, the McEwans generously decided to send him the original painting as a gift, all the way from Canada to New Zealand.

A truly happy ending to an interesting story, and a truly pleasing sidelight on Commonwealth Relations!

Think on These Things

THE season of Advent is the time when we think of the coming of Jesus as a little baby at Bethlehem.

Isaiah declares that the Messiah will be filled with the Spirit of God, and the six-fold gifts of the Spirit will be His—wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

All that the prophet taught in this wonderful passage we see in Jesus. It is all fulfilled in His person and with His coming. Jesus taught that in God's Kingdom there is peace and justice and righteousness.

Christians are to live as children of the Kingdom, accepting Christ's royal law of love, and working for the perfect day when God's will is done on earth as in heaven, and His Kingdom victorious over all evil. O. R. C.

The body in the boot

MEMORIES of thrillers he had seen on TV must have flooded into the mind of a ten-year-old boy of Redwood City, California, when he saw some men cramming a body into the boot of a car.

He immediately reported the incident to the police, and as a result detectives were actively engaged on the "case" for 40 hours. At last they solved the problem, but it was one of the lesser crimes.

The "body" was that of a hard-up student, travelling in the boot of a friend's car with the intention of getting into a sports meeting free.

Lucky Martin



Five-year-old Martin Baker of Orpington, Kent. One of his mother's pictures of him won a prize in a photographic competition, and part of the prize is free ice-cream for a year.

Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, December 3, 1927

ACTORS will soon, perhaps, be able to perform their parts in the actual places where the scene is supposed to have been laid, the scenery being transported by camera magic.

A Vienna professor, Dr. Geyling, is to show in London and Paris his new method of throwing on a screen at the back of the stage a sort of magic-lantern picture of the scenery.

All kinds of fairylike effects can be obtained, and as photography can be brought into play actual scenery from abroad, faithfully coloured, can be used.

THEY SAY . . .

I DON'T see how anyone now, or in a few years' time, can command any respect or attention unless he has got some knowledge of science.

Prince Philip, to the boys of Uppingham School

THERE is no short cut to the brotherhood of man. It must come from mutual respect. To achieve mutual respect there must be self-respect.

Lord Rowallan, Chief Scout

I FIND the task of teaching children to keep their skins intact both rewarding and interesting.

Commander Gibbon, Canterbury's Road Safety Organiser

MODERN schoolgirls take their work more seriously than their predecessors, but there is less love of learning for its own sake and too much agitation about early choice of careers.

Miss F. M. Forster, Headmistress of Solihull High School for Girls

THE richest resources of this country have always been the trained brains and hands of the people. This is still Great Britain.

Mr. George A. Drew, Canadian High Commissioner in London

Venus observed

THERE was great excitement recently in the town of Bathurst, New South Wales. Various people reported to the town council that they had seen a "metallic object" shining in the sky.

Some observers described the object as a flying saucer with two decks; others declared that it had a red top and a lighted section underneath; and there were also reports of a cigar-shaped satellite.

Two Sabre jets of the Royal Australian Air Force were sent up to investigate but found nothing to report. In the end, the "object" proved to be the planet Venus which, as an official at Sydney Observatory confirmed later, is often clearly visible during daylight at this time of the year in Australia.

JUST AN IDEA

As Robert Browning wrote: It's no use trying to shine if you won't take time to fill your lamp.

JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in italics. To answer five or six correctly is very good.

(Answers are given on page 16)

1. She is a *nonentity*.
A—Ninety years old.
B—No one of importance.
C—Behaves strangely.
2. We have *eradicated* the trouble.
A—Found out what it is.
B—Managed to avoid it.
C—Rooted it out.
3. Are you the *narrator*?
A—I made the complaint.
B—I tell the story.
C—I'm the ring-leader.
4. I am an *omnivorous* reader.
A—Dislike literature.
B—Choose very carefully.
C—Read all sorts of books.
5. We have made an *innovation*.
A—A significant discovery.
B—Introduced a new idea.
C—A sign of disapproval.
6. He is an *aspiring* young man.
A—Eagerly ambitious.
B—Gives one confidence.
C—Sends one to sleep.

Out and About

IN noticing the dates of Nature's changes as the year goes round one must remember that it is not only a question of one local area being more sheltered or exposed than another. There is, of course, an over-all change of climate as one goes from south to north of Britain.

In winter the difference most often observed is in the date of lambing-time. In the south this is in December and January, except in exposed places where it may be a month or two later. As one goes northward the lambing is later and later, until in parts of Scotland it takes place in May and June.

EMPTY FEELING

But even before winter there are noticeable differences. The late autumn everywhere makes an impression of the slowing down of natural life. And when the trees have been stripped of their leaves and show the varied patterns of their branches against a cold, grey sky, you do have a sort of empty feeling sometimes.

In the south, however, not only are there more birds moving but one can generally still see the cattle and sheep grazing, and usually remaining out of doors all night.

By the end of November this is less likely as you go north. From high parts of the Midlands and northwards, the deserted fields are fallow; autumn ploughing has ended, and pastures are mostly deserted, cattle being taken in to shelter, except on the fine days.

BIRDS IN BARE TREES

Another sign to suggest emptiness in the picture is in the thinness of the hedges you pass (where hedges are not replaced by grey stone walls). They are often as transparent as a torn and very threadbare cloth. With the tall trees bare as well, it is a wonder how birds seem to disappear.

In a wood especially, it is astonishing how many such birds as wood pigeons, rooks, or starlings may be congregated, unseen until you get very close.

Except in very fine spells of mild weather, the air itself seems emptied of life. The almost complete disappearance of insects on the wing means that fewer insect-eating birds are seen hunting them. But birds of all kinds, in trees and on the ground, continue the quest for insects and grubs, as well as seeds.

C. D. D.

FOR ALL TIME

THERE was never a sunbeam lost, and never a drop of rain; There was never a carol sweet that was sung, and sung in vain; There was never a noble thought but through endless years it lives; And never a blacksmith's blow but an endless use it gives.

Marguerite Ogden Bigelow

LITTLE DREAMER OF DREAMS

The strange genius with the heart of a child

*I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land*

EVERYONE of us has sung these lines set to the glorious music of Sir Hubert Parry. But not everyone knows that they were written by William Blake, poet, artist, engraver, and dreamer of dreams. We remember him this week because he was born just 200 years ago (on November 28, 1757) in Broad Street, Soho, then almost on the western outskirts of London.

There was never any doubt at all about what young William Blake was going to become when he grew up.

His father kept a hosier's shop and wanted this second son of his in the business one day. But William's only interest in customers was to draw their faces while they were in the shop.

He was a difficult boy to educate, for William was for ever living in the clouds. On country walks he would claim to see a tree full of angels; at another time he saw angels walking among a crowd of haymakers.

Before he was twelve he was writing verse, and delightful verse, too. So, early in life his course was set. He was a dreamer, but one with the skill to express his visions with brush and pencil or graving tool, or else in poetry.

William's father soon saw that it was no use trying to force such



The portrait of William Blake on his memorial in St. Paul's Cathedral

a boy into trade. So he sent him, at the age of ten, to a drawing school in the Strand. He bought his son casts of statuary to draw and now and then gave him pocket money to buy prints he wanted to copy.

The boy used to go to auction sales, though he could only make

very modest bids. But he went so often that one auctioneer, struck by the boy's anxious face as he made his last small bid, would often bring his hammer down quickly so that the "little connoisseur" should have what he had set his heart on.

At fourteen William was apprenticed to an engraver and in the summertime would be sent round the old churches of the City, and to Westminster Abbey, to draw the monuments there. While other people were walking the hot streets in the sunshine, this lad would sit for hours in these cool, stone interiors, utterly happy and completely absorbed in his work.

TIRELESS WORKER

When he grew up he earned his living mostly as an engraver, though he seldom earned much. But he was a tireless worker and all his life poured forth poems and allegories, paintings and book illustrations, inspired by his strange dreams of earth and heaven, of men and angels. You may see a fine collection of his pictures in London's Tate Gallery, though you may understand some of them no more than Blake's own friends did.

His Songs of Innocence certainly influenced later authors who wrote for children—R. L. Stevenson, for instance, and Walter de la Mare, both of whom wrote simple poems full of meaning. But Blake did not write as a grown-up "for children," but as a child speaking to children:

*Piping down the valleys wild,
Piping songs of pleasant glee.*

He was always a great fighter against injustice and bad living conditions. His spirit rebelled against much that he saw all around him in those "good old days." One need look no further than the poem we call Jerusalem to get a glimpse of his feelings on that point.

VISIONS OF A GENIUS

William Blake was a dreamer, but no idle one. His visions were strong and vivid and they were visions of a genius. Even as a boy of four, he had spoken of seeing "God put His forehead to the window."

He saw life like that to the end of his days—he died serenely at his lodgings in a court off the Strand, London, on an August day in 1827. He is remembered as a simple, unworldly man whose work, often mysterious, is also simple and unworldly, yet full of deep wisdom.

Nobody but William Blake could have written:

*Little lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed;
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
Little lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?*



Building his own church

At Biggin Hill, Kent, the Rev. Vivian Symons is building himself a new church with material brought from the bombed ruins of All Saints, Camberwell, London. Here we see him busy at work on one of the windows.

STAMP NEWS

MODERN airliners are featured on three new stamps. Australia's latest issue, shown here, is in honour of her Round the World



service and pictures a Super Constellation. A Czech stamp has the Russian TU 104 jet flying over the Eiffel Tower. The French Caravelle is depicted on a St. Pierre and Miquelon issue.

INTERNATIONAL Letter-Writing Week has been marked by one of Russia's recent new stamps.

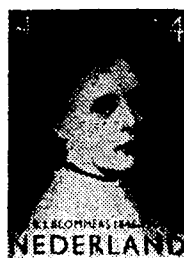
A NEW U.S. stamp in three colours shows the rare whooping cranes with their fledglings. Each spring these birds leave their Texas marsh to nest in the Canadian Arctic.

NEW ZEALAND is planning a pictorial set to replace her Queen Elizabeth portrait stamps, which have now been in use for four years.

A STAMP from France records the 2000th anniversary of the town of Lyons.



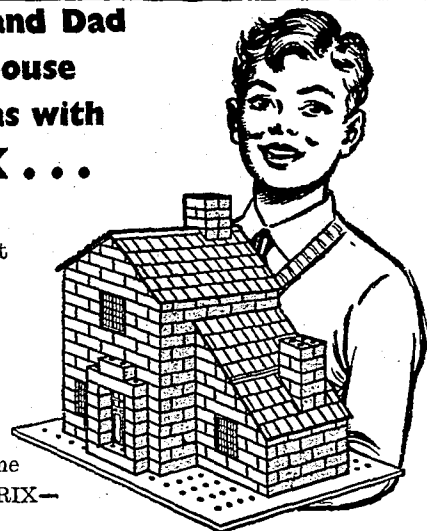
EACH year the Netherlands issues a set of stamps carrying a surcharge for child welfare. The 1957 set, shown here, has five values, all showing portraits of children by 19th and 20th century Dutch painters.



Build Mum and Dad a fine new house this Christmas with MINIBRIX...

and right through the year you will get hours of enjoyment building castles and cottages, farmhouses and factories, schools and stations, also hundreds of other fine models with MINIBRIX—the all-rubber interlocking bricks.

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THE GREAT FIRE OF SOUTH LONDON

LONDON—The most distinctive landmark in South London vanished during the night when the Crystal Palace at Sydenham was destroyed in London's most spectacular fire for many years. It broke out in the early evening and raged throughout the night.

Although the outer shell of the building was the familiar structure of iron and glass there was a great deal of woodwork inside and it was this that burned so furiously. The cause of the fire is not known. There were no casualties.

firemen stood helplessly about when they could not get through the throng to connect their hoses to the mains. The situation became so bad that the BBC appealed in its 9 o'clock news bulletin for the crowds to keep away.

The outbreak was discovered about 7.30 last night in the staff cloakroom. The peculiar tunnel-like construction of the main building acted as a flue, and when the flames reached it they roared through. Within five minutes the minor outbreak burst into a terrifying blaze. After the birds in

By nine o'clock the whole of the southern end of the building was a burning heap of ruins on the ground and the northern end was dramatically silhouetted by the flames. It was possible to read a newspaper over a quarter of a mile away by the light from the fire.

At 6.30 this morning all that remained of the 85-year-old Crystal Palace was a heap of smoking rubble, twisted ironwork, and broken glass.

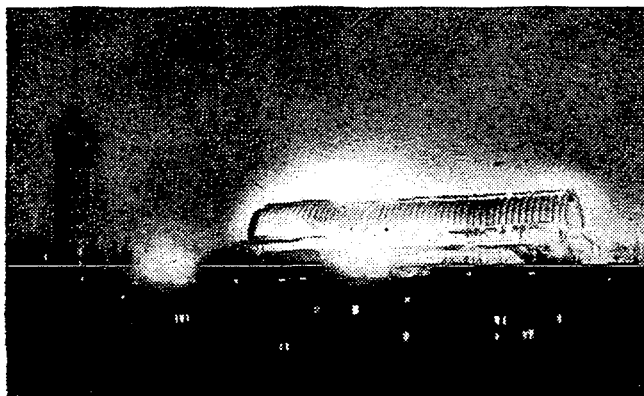
PROPERTY OF THE NATION

Originally built in Hyde Park for the Great Exhibition of 1851, the Crystal Palace was moved to Sydenham three years later and soon became world-famous as a show place. People flocked there in tens of thousands to enjoy exhibitions and circuses and great festivals of music. The beautiful grounds, covering nearly 300 acres, were also a great attraction. The Football Association Cup Final was played there for many years before the First World War.

In 1913 the Crystal Palace had become the property of the nation. Now the nation had lost not only a distinctive structure of great value but also a building to which it had become attached.

On every hand last night expressions of regret for the fate of "the poor old palace" could be heard as news of the disaster spread. At the beginning of the Crystal Palace's life in 1851 the great novelist Thackeray described it as a "blazing arch of lucid glass." At the end, last night, that is what it tragically became.

(Another great landmark, the lofty aerial of one of the BBC television transmitters, now stands on the site of one of the two towers which were such a prominent feature of the Crystal Palace.)



The Crystal Palace as the fire raged

The Crystal Palace stood 300 feet above sea level on a ridge dominating South London and the flames, 150 feet high, were visible for miles around, while the red glow in the sky could be seen in Brighton.

Many thousands flocked to the scene of the blaze, and hundreds of police had to be called in to control them. This vast multitude soon blocked many of the roads near the fire and police vans broadcasting "This road must be kept clear" could hardly get through themselves. At one point

the aviary had been released, everybody left the building.

Within half an hour the fire was out of control, although fire engines arrived from all parts of London—89 of them altogether. The iron skeleton of the southern end of the building became first red and then white hot. Soon section after section sagged, and finally crashed to the ground amid a shower of sparks, creating a spectacle reminiscent of the firework displays which were one of the most famous features of the Crystal Palace grounds.



Hold still, please

St. Albans Church of England School in Grays Inn Road, London, has classes in crafts as well as the usual subjects. Here we see pupils in the needlework class.

FLOATING CHURCH IN LONDON DOCKS

A new floating church is being built for the Missions to Seamen. It will serve in the London Docks, replacing the present church, which is the John Ashley, a converted Admiralty fishing vessel. The new boat, also named John Ashley, will be 75 feet long, and, as well as the church, will have a library, TV, and a 60-seat cinema.

Part of the cost of £30,000 has been met with a £6000 grant from the Gulbenkian Foundation to which the C.N. referred last week.

OLD SHIP'S BELL NOW RINGS AT SCHOOL

Boys and girls of Hardley Secondary School at Fawley, Hampshire, are now the proud possessors of a ship's bell. It was the fore-castle bell of s.s. Tamaroa of the Shaw Savill line, a ship which they adopted more than 20 years ago but is now to be broken up.

Set up in the school yard on a stand made by the pupils themselves, the bell that once rang out on the high seas is now rung for assemblies and for change of lessons.

THE WHITE COMPANY—new picture-version of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stirring yarn (12)



Escaping to a mountain valley, Sir Nigel and his party found that the person they had kidnapped was not the Spanish king, but one of his body-squires, who dressed like their master to protect him from capture. Sir Nigel was bitterly disappointed that his daring scheme had come to nothing, but he sent the squire back to the Spanish camp with courteous apologies to the King for disarranging his tent.



After the rest of The White Company had joined them, a large body of horsemen was heard approaching, and their bugle calls were recognised as Spanish. The Englishmen could not escape from the valley unseen, and Sir Nigel decided that his Company should fight it out from a low hill in the middle of the gorge. There would be no room for all the horses on the hilltop, so they turned them loose.



From their position on the low hill, The White Company saw they were heavily outnumbered by this host of horsemen, which was evidently on its way to join the main Spanish army. But the enemy's first charge was beaten back by English arrows. Sir Nigel, who had kept his horse, overthrew a noted Spanish knight in single combat, and considered that this entitled him to take the patch from his eye.



Attacks by stone-slingers and crossbowmen followed, and the enemy were seen to be preparing to charge on foot. The English had less than 200 arrows left and someone suggested retreating. "My soul will retreat from my body first!" cried the little knight. "Here I am and here I bide, while God gives me strength to lift a sword. Shoot while you may, and then out sword, and let us live or die together."

What chance has The White Company against such great odds? See next week's instalment

NO CLUES FOR THE CONWAYS

by Geoffrey Morgan

Brett Hallam, owner of the yacht *Windfall*, has disappeared. Amos and the Conways salvage the vessel, but later suspect she is not Hallam's boat. Jerry discovers that *Domino*, a yacht which could have been faked to resemble *Windfall*, has been sold to a Mr. Bland, who lives at Seeley Hall. At the nearby village of Dilwyth the Conways make inquiries about a car accident in which Blake, a private detective working on the mystery, has been injured and has lost his memory. They find out that Blake was going to see Bland, and Jerry decides to go to Seeley Hall.

12. Seeley Hall

JANE stopped in her tracks, staring at Jerry in alarm.

"Just what d'you mean by that?" she exclaimed.

Jerry came back a step and took her gently by the arm.

"Just what I say," he said calmly. "I'm going to Seeley Hall to see Mr. Bland. But don't look so scared. I'm not giving myself away. I'm working out the right approach."

"Approach? What difference does that make? If he's a guilty man he'll suspect any stranger who starts prying around." She glanced along the road. "Especially after what's happened to Blake."

"He won't suspect me," Jerry returned confidently. "I've got a foolproof wheeze."

"Besides," Jane continued, as if she had not heard his remark. "Amos told us not to go snooping around the place. His orders were to make all our inquiries in the village and report back to him, and you know it."

Jerry smiled disarmingly.

Jerry explains

"I always obey the skipper's orders—on the *Mirelda*," he said. "Look, Jane, you know we've got nothing to report if we go back now. The only fresh development we could hint at is that we were right in thinking Blake was in Dilwyth to see Bland. What good is that if we can't back it up with some evidence that Bland is the solution to the mystery?"

He noticed Jane's determination weakening and hurried on: "We've only got to get anywhere if the skipper decides to go to the police, and I reckon he will if he gets no news from Yarmouth. If he does, wouldn't it be better to have something really concrete to give them?"

"Sure," Jane said. "It would be fine, but how d'you figure on

getting anything out of Seeley Hall?"

"By just asking a few questions," he returned calmly.

"It's a dangerous risk to take, and you won't even prove anything," Jane persisted.

"Maybe not, but we shall know if Bland still has a boat of the *Windfall* class."

"How?"

"By inquiring if his boat's for sale," Jerry started to move, urging her along by pinching her arm. "Come on, I'll tell you what the drill is while we find the place."

Jane went reluctantly at first, but as Jerry explained his plan she began to see it had possibilities, and although in the end she found herself agreeing to the operation, it was with some misgiving.

The step was bold and simple.



The Conways peered into the grounds

Jerry intended to ask for Bland and explain that he understood from a boat-builder friend at Tealing that he had a yacht of the *Grey Dolphin* Class for sale. He would add that he was acting for his father, who had not time to follow up every likely inquiry. This should seem harmless enough, and if Bland were involved in the disappearance of Hallam and the real *Windfall*, he would have no reason to believe that Jerry was aware of the case while Jerry would be watching closely for any suspicious sign or word Bland might make in reply.

"I shall try to avoid going into the house," Jerry continued. "And I shall stay long enough to put over my line and get his reaction. But in any case, you'll lie low outside, and if I do have to go in and I'm not out in 15 minutes, you'll know what to do."

"Sure," Jane replied tensely. "Go for the police and the skipper."

"But it won't come to that," he said confidently.

Their minds were still fully occupied with Jerry's forthcoming

interview when they reached the sharp bend in the road and were almost past the scene of the accident before they realised it. Jerry stopped suddenly and looked around for oil stains and the damaged tree.

As Mr. Travis had said, the place was easily recognised. The grass verge was badly cut up, clusters of ferns and bushes were flattened and patches of oil had dried black on the green vegetation. The trunk of the elm tree was thick and strong and apart from the missing strips of bark and one or two jagged scars, it showed little sign of what must have been a violent impact. Scattered around it was splintered glass, odd pieces of broken metal and lumps of dried mud evidently shaken from under the wings and body of the car by the collision.

Nothing new

There was no trace of tyre marks on the road to suggest the car had skidded, and it was difficult to understand what had happened to Blake and his car in that split second before the crash.

The Conways did not remain long on the scene. It was obvious there was nothing new to learn there, and they set off again along the road, busy with their own thoughts.

Every now and then Jerry glanced slyly at his cousin, wondering if her thoughts were similar to his own. But he did not voice the questions in his mind. He was sure he had the right answers to them, and he had no wish to scare Jane off his plan by emphasising them... Blake was coming from the Thandon direction when he crashed; but he was not necessarily coming from that town. He could have been driving from Seeley Hall. Had he paid his call on Bland, and had that any connection with his accident? Was it an accident? Jerry had doubts about that now; but he felt sure of one thing. Blake had been to Seeley Hall.

Along the lane

He said nothing to Jane, and if she were reaching the same conclusion she kept the fact to herself.

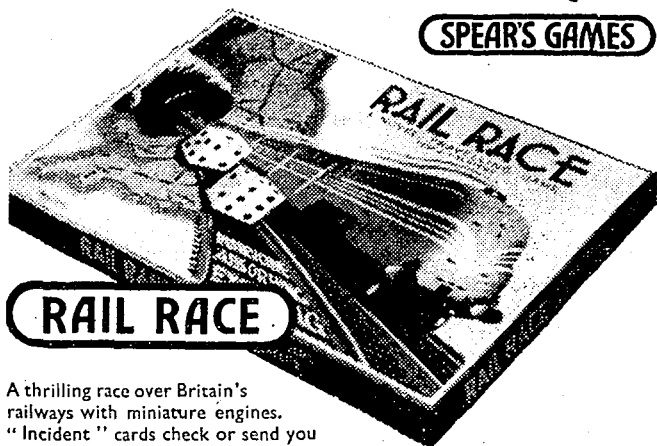
There was no signpost where the lane intersected the road, but it ran in the direction of the river and in the distance a house was visible through the trees. They thought it must be Seeley Hall and that the lane would take them to it.

They started walking again. There were tall hedges on either side of the lane and, beyond them, rough grazing land broken by islands of fir trees. The landscape was gently undulating, well-wooded and surrounded in a lonely silence broken at intervals

Continued on page 13

Everyday-its Fun to play-

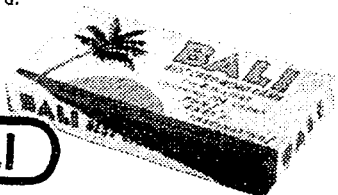
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New Books for Christmas

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Meindert DeJong

This new book by the author of *The Wheel on the School*, is set in Holland and tells the story of a little Dutch boy and his black rabbit, Shadrach. Illustrated. 10s. 6d. net.

MERRY GOES TO BALLET SCHOOL

Susan Gaynor

This is a story of dancing, mischief and fun. A school story with a difference—ballet! Illustrated. 9s. 6d. net.

OUTBACK ADVENTURE

Mary Elwyn Patchett

This is the fifth 'Ajax' book, and, like the first and second, it is set on the Queensland—New South Wales border. The adventures are with horses, the three dogs and a new pet. Illustrated. 8s. 6d. net.

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Christmas will be here soon. Have you bought all your presents? THE ROAD TO MIKLAGARD (Illus. 12s. 6d.) by Henry Treece is an exciting story of how a band of Vikings made the long and dangerous journey to Miklagard. And WILD FRONTIER (Illus. 10s. 6d.) by Reginald Taylor is a fast-moving tale, set in America's early pioneering days. For little girls there is FIVE DOLLS IN THE SNOW (Illus. 8s. 6d.) by Helen Clare—further amusing adventures of the inhabitants of the dolls' house.



THE BODLEY HEAD

NEW BOOKS FOR

THE youngest of our friends are the ones thought of first when the time comes for choosing Christmas gifts; and of all the gifts to choose from there are none more sure to please than picture books. Making a choice is a pleasant task, but no easy one, for there is bountiful offering in the book-shops.

This season, as ever, animal stories are well to the fore, and this year many of them tell of furred and feathered favourites. A few of the most entertaining greet us in Freda Hurt's MR. TWINK, DETECTIVE (Epworth Press, 7s. 6d.). Mr. Twink, the problem-solving cat, and his friend Sergeant Boffer, the well-meaning but not very bright policeman's dog, become involved in highly diverting adventures when secret societies spring up among the village animals and birds, following the arrival of a beautiful white poodle named Suzette.

Another book guaranteed to raise bedtime chuckles is Charlotte Hough's MORTON'S PONY (Faber, 9s. 6d.). This old pony is so wise that he is trusted to take charge of children, but the adventurous twins prove too much for him at a picnic in the snow.

An endearing character of a different kind is Mary Gehr's LITTLEST CIRCUS SEAL (World's Work, 7s. 6d.). When this pet of the circus folk tries to take part in the show he is ordered

out of the way, but one day he slips into the seal act, and then the fun starts.

Another amusing animal character is the Wolf in Catherine Storr's THE ADVENTURES OF POLLY AND THE WOLF (Faber, 9s. 6d.). This pair made their bow in the author's earlier book, Clever Polly and the Stupid Wolf, and it seems that the wolf has also read that yarn, and is quite indignant about it. His efforts to prove himself clever are as laughable as ever.

Mirthful, too, are the experiences of a little bear, BRUIN FURRY-BALL IN THE PUPPET THEATRE, a picture book from Czechoslovakia published in English by Andrew Dakers at 3s. 6d.



All young viewers will enjoy the Watch With Mother Tales edited by Freda Lingstrom (Publicity Products, 7s. 6d.). All the old favourites are here including Andy Pandy and, of course Teddy, who is pictured here.



All young cat-lovers will enjoy Minka and Gurdy, by Antonia White (Harvill Press, 12s. 6d.). Here is one of many illustrations by Janet and Anne Johnstone.

Another pleasing flight of fancy is MRS. EASTER AND THE STORKS, by V. H. Drummond (Faber, 9s. 6d.). It concerns the astonishing journey made by a lady and her nephew on the back of a stork.

Squirrels are attractive creatures, and a charming tale of one who has fairy friends is told in SAMMY, THE STORY OF A RED SQUIRREL, by Joseph and Jean Palmer (Geoffrey Bles, 8s. 6d.). Equally charming is SHADRACH by Meindert De Jong (Lutterworth Press, 10s. 6d.), which is the tale of a Dutch boy and his pet rabbit.

Another small boy features in TOMMY WITH THE HOLE IN HIS SHOE, by Aaron Judah (Faber, 9s. 6d.), but Tommy has a varied company of animals to give him advice when he badly needs shoe repairs in the woods.

Truer to life is MERRY BROWN HARE, by A. Windsor-Richards (Hutchinson, 7s. 6d.). The author has spent many hours watching hares in their natural

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AN ANCESTOR'S GOOD NAME

Daughters of Aradale, by Elinor Lyon (Hodder and Stoughton, 12s. 6d.)

THIS is another good story of modern young Highlanders by an author who really knows their country and their ways. Many readers will already have met Cathy, the orphan from England, and her friends Ian and Sovra. Now they are back again among the glens and the lochs.

This time Cathy is on the track of something rather out of the ordinary. In school, one day, an old song is read by the mistress recalling the treachery of a beautiful Scottish girl after the battle of Culloden. Cathy is this girl's descendant and furiously determined to clear her good name.

Her quest for the truth is as exciting as it is successful.

A WISH COME TRUE

A Zoo of My Own, by Cornelius Conyn (Harrop, 12s. 6d.)

THIS is the story of a boy's wish which comes true when he grows up. His wish was for a zoo of his own, and it began with the coming of Chu, a puppy, soon to be followed by jungle cats, a monkey, a tiger, a talking bird, a crocodile, and many others. Chu, always ready to lend a willing paw or to bark a rebuke, came to be regarded as Head Keeper. After reading this delightful book, with its fascinating stories of wild—and tame—creatures, many a boy will be eager to start a zoo of his own.

IRISH JOURNEY

The Green-Coated Boy, by Marjorie Dixon and Richard Kennedy (Faber, 12s. 6d.)

DOMINIC and Josephine bid for a model canoe at an auction sale near their home in Ireland and are given a real canoe by mistake. Then their adventures really begin, for they are able to visit the green-coated boy who lives "down the river and over the hill" and tends a herd of beautiful goats. They have a special reason for this, but much water runs under their canoe and many are their adventures before they are safely home again, their object achieved.

CANADIAN CAPERS

Sol LaBonté by Philip L. Marjolin (Macmillan, 10s. 6d.)

THE hero of this book in seven episodes is the sort of character you see in American strip cartoons, only this one comes from Canada. He lives in a remote village of the far (and often frozen) north, and he has a lot of trouble with animals; the fox comes to steal his chickens, for instance, and the woodchuck eats up his beans and potatoes. He can never settle the fox, but he does find a most original way to keep the woodchuck out of the garden. Sol is original in other ways, too, consulting a thermometer to find how many pairs of socks he should wear.

The author is also an artist and there are plenty of funny pictures of Sol and his doings.

THE VERY YOUNG



Stories, Poems, and Plays about fairyland are all to be found in the **Pixie O'Harris Story Book**. This is one of scores of delightful drawings by the author. (Angus and Robertson, 15s.)

surroundings, and here he gives us the thrilling story of one of them, Lev, from the day when she is a fluffy ball.

No less thrilling in its way is **THE LONG FLIGHT HOME**, by Erik Hutchinson (Faber, 9s. 6d.), a story of a young swallow's adventures in the great spring migration from South Africa to its Yorkshire birthplace.

Turning from animals to realms of pure fantasy, the younger children will be delighted to meet "Mrs. Small" in Helen Clare's **FIVE DOLLS IN THE SNOW** (Bodley Head, 8s. 6d.). This is a

tale of a girl who magically shrinks until she is small enough to enter a doll's house—something many small people have dreamed of doing—and join in their frolics.

Another charming fantasy is **PEGASUS**, by John Bowen and Kenneth Rowell (Faber, 12s. 6d.), a picture story of a flying horse of classical antiquity that retires to a 20th-century farm to escape artificial satellites and suchlike, and is befriended by a little boy.

A smaller picture book with fascination of a different sort is **HAROLD AND THE PURPLE CRAYON**, by Crockett Johnson (Constable, 5s. 6d.), in which a very junior artist finds himself sharing the adventures he is drawing.

We often hear of a house having character, and that is certainly true of **THE WALKING HOUSE**, by Claire Simpson (Angus and Robertson, 8s. 6d.). It tells of a kindly old cottage carried off by a little girl to a land of sunshine.



Jock the Scottie—one of many illustrations by Phyllis Denton in **The Adventures of Jock and Jonathan**, a tale of a boy and his dog, by C. W. Hill (Warne, 7s. 6d.)

There is also magic galore in **THE LAND OF NO TIME**, by Ursula Horsley-Smith (Guilford Press, 8s. 6d.), which tells of children who find themselves living in bygone times.

But magic happenings in everyday life are also popular, and a well-known creator of them is Mr. H. E. Todd, whose Bobby Brewster is a favourite with BBC Children's Hour listeners. More queer things happen to this lad in **BOBBY BREWSTER'S BICYCLE** (Brockhampton Press, 6s.).



One of N. M. Bodecker's many amusing drawings in **Magic by the Lake**, by Edward Eager (Macmillan, 11s. 6d.).

Barbara Short's **PINEAPPLE IN CANDYLAND** (Rockliff, 8s. 6d.) is a tale to be read aloud with great effect. Her characters are named after sweets, which makes them doubly attractive.

Finally, Nancy Spain's Tiger who wouldn't eat is back again, this time on a ranch in Arizona. The story is called **THE TIGER WHO WON HIS STAR** (Parrish, 7s. 6d.).

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Her brother had been recalled to his country; then came grave news of him, and Fazio had . . .

But you must find out the rest for yourself.

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Lauri's Surprising Summer, by Lee Kingman (Constable, 12s. 6d.)

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Young Lauri has to help with the family expenses while father is out of work owing to an accident.

So Lauri does odd jobs for a rather eccentric lady with a house by the sea, and he starts by climbing in through an upper window when she has managed to lock herself out.

Then, to his disgust, a tiresome eleven-year-old girl arrives, and he is expected to keep her amused. And she is not easily amused.

But in the end he takes her home and all is well.

OTHER RECOMMENDED BOOKS

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THE STORY OF OUR WORLD, by I. O. Evans (Hutchinson, 12s. 6d.)

LOOKING AT THE STARS, by Michael Ovenden (Phoenix, 10s. 6d.)

THE BOYS' OWN BOOK OF HOBBIES, edited by Jack Cox (Lutterworth, 12s. 6d.)

HANDBOOK OF INDOOR GAMES AND CONTESTS, by Darwin A. Hindman (Nicholas Kaye, 17s. 6d.)

TROPICAL FISH IN YOUR HOME, by Herbert R. Axelrod and William Vorderwinkler (Ward Lock, 17s. 6d.)

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MAN IS AN ARTIST, the story of painting, sculpture, and architecture through the ages, by John Bradford (Harrap, 21s.)

INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUNG SKATERS, by Erik Van der Weyden (Museum Press, 12s. 6d.)

THE BOYS' BOOK OF RADIO, TELEVISION, AND RADAR, and **THE BOYS' BOOK OF MODERN SCIENTIFIC WONDERS AND INVENTIONS**, by Leonard Bertin, published by Burke, 9s. 6d. each

MUSIC DICTIONARY, by Marilyn Kornreich Davis, with Arnold Broido (Faber, 12s. 6d.)

Books to Buy

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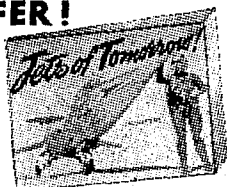


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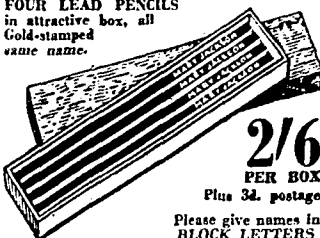
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TOUGH JOB UNDER THE SEA

Exploits of a wartime diver

FEW men can have had stranger or more hair-raising wartime adventures than Lieut.-Commander "Peter" Keeble, a South African salvage expert and diver. And the full story of them, told in his new book *Ordeal by Water* (Longmans, 18s.), certainly makes thrilling reading.

Sea salvage work was of great importance in the Second World War, for harbours blocked with sunken, concrete-filled ships by the retreating enemy had to be cleared so that supplies could be brought in for the Allied armies. This was work calling for skilled and intrepid divers; work, for example, that included sitting astride submerged mines to render them harmless.

One of the most important jobs, as well as the most dangerous, undertaken by Peter Keeble was to recover a secret gadget from a sunken German submarine. This secret device, the "backroom boys" believed, enabled the German U-boat sailors to see at night while on the surface.

U-BOAT MODEL

Some idea of the gadget and where it was situated in the U-boat's control room was gained from prisoners-of-war. The scientists then built a full-scale model of a German submarine's control room with the device in its supposed position. In this model Peter practised finding his way about—for he would have to work in darkness when he reached the inside of the U-boat itself.

He was warned that the device would almost certainly have an explosive booby-trap attached to it to kill anyone attempting to remove it. This he would have to find and disconnect.

The wrecked submarine was lying at a depth of 230 feet in the eastern Mediterranean. Peter donned his diving suit and went down to it from a salvage ship.

After what seemed an eternity of groping around the control space in total darkness, he felt a thrill

of triumph as his fingers touched and recognised the secret "box of tricks." Fighting his desire for sleep—the effect of working at great depth—he unscrewed the nuts, tugged at the piping, and wrenched the whole affair free.

The scientist with the expedition was delighted—but one thing puzzled him. Why had not the demolition charge attached to the device exploded? Peter Keeble, in his anxiety to secure the prize, had forgotten all about the booby trap!

That was indeed a hairbreadth's escape. Yet the nearest he came to death was during what should have been a perfectly straightforward operation. At Tripoli harbour he wished to examine a ship sunk by bombs in shallow water. His divers were busy elsewhere so he showed a naval petty officer, who knew nothing about diving, how to work the air pump. Some soldiers standing around also wanted to help.

AIR SUPPLY GIVES OUT

Down by the side of the sunken ship in his diving suit, Peter's air supply suddenly gave out. He pulled the line as a signal to be raised, and to his horror the line came down loose and coiled at his feet. Staggering towards the harbour wall he tripped over something and saw it was his vital air pump—the petty officer and his soldier helpers had accidentally pushed it into the water!

Luckily the underwater part of the harbour had been blasted by bombs, and there was a slope of broken rubble up which Peter crawled to flounder, nearly suffocated, on the jetty.

Peter Keeble is indeed a man of many exploits, and the story of them is enthralling.

NATURE'S WILD FORCES

When the forces of Nature are unleashed man can feel very small indeed. But knowledge of these forces often affords him some protection, and substitutes fact for fallacy.

From Earthquake, Fire and Flood by R. Hewitt (Allen & Unwin, 18s.) is a book that answers many questions we often ask.

What exactly is lightning, how is it caused, how fast does it move, does it hurt you if it strikes your car? What is the modern evidence for Noah's Flood? What kind of wind is it that can tear off the top of a church steeple and carry it 15 miles? What was it like during the eruption of Vesuvius?

The author tells of giant meteors, of tidal waves and tornadoes, and quotes a wonderful eyewitness account of what a hurricane meant in the old days of sail. This volume is packed with information and is well illustrated.

TIPS FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

Many experts are not so expert when they have to pass their knowledge on to others. But Eric Robinson, the genial conductor who has endeared himself to huge television audiences with his "Music for You" programmes, is the most helpful of guides when it comes to giving tips to young musicians struggling along the thorny path which leads to success.

His little book, *Adventures in Music* (Lutterworth Press, 8s. 6d.) is as friendly as its author. He seems to be sitting down beside the reader just chatting about his various musical experiences and at the same time imparting a great deal of sound advice and many useful tips.

A gifted musician who enjoys his work to the full, Eric Robinson has written a book of great value to all who aspire to a career in music.

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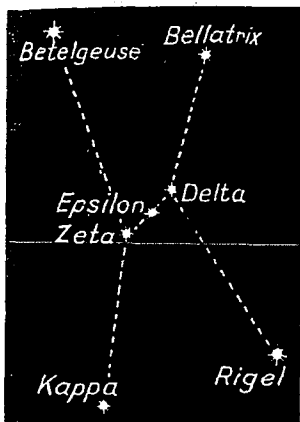
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TWIN STARS OF RIGEL

The grand constellation of Orion the Hunter may now be seen rising in the south-east after about seven o'clock in the evening, its seven brightest stars constituting one of the best-remembered star-groups in the heavens.

In addition, there are many thousands of lesser stars involved in Orion's vast nebula which together present such a magnificent scene of celestial light on a clear dark night when observed through a telescope. Even good binoculars will greatly increase the glory of the scene and present multitudes of these inter-related stars, for many



of them form part of what is known as the Great Star-Cluster of Orion.

This consists of an immense "swirl" of stars congregated round a luminous centre. The average distance of this vast assembly is between 500 and 600 light-years, but so great is the "Orion Cluster" that some of its members are, of course, much closer than this.

Chief among the Orion stars is the brilliant Rigel, about 540 light-years away. It presents one of the finest examples of a remarkable solar system evolving from a very early state of existence. For Rigel is composed of two suns which

radiate nearly 1800 times more light and heat than does our Sun. There are also two other companion suns; they are much smaller and at a great distance from the central pair.

These distant suns, though relatively much smaller, are nevertheless big enough to radiate about 20 times more light than does our Sun.

EGG-SHAPED SUNS

Were Rigel as near to us as our own Sun, instead of some 34,366,000 times farther away, we would see two intensely brilliant suns, each about 20 times the width of our Sun; they would appear to be comparatively close together with only a few million miles ever dividing them. So the effects of the gravitational pull of one sun upon the other would bring about a remarkable egg-shape to each of them as they speed round their common centre of gravity, which they do in only 22 days.

Their surfaces are in an everlasting state of fiery turbulence with streams of flaming gases, chiefly helium, whirling in eruptive cyclones of fire, and with a degree of heat that produces the brilliant white incandescence which we see.

CLOUD OF HELIUM

Hydrogen and numerous other heavier elements are erupted from beneath the vast cloud layer of helium, which has an average temperature of about 16,000 degrees Centigrade as compared with our Sun's average surface temperature of 6000 degrees. This is why Rigel radiates such a bluish-white light.

Rigel is therefore regarded as being in a much earlier stage of stellar evolution. Indeed, the whole vast region of the Orion Cluster would appear to have evolved out of its original nebulous state at a much later period than our Sun, or, in fact, most of our Universe. G. F. M.

NO CLUES FOR THE CONWAYS

Continued from page 9

by the cawing of rooks and the faint cry of gulls.

Ten minutes' walking brought them to the end of the lane. It turned suddenly to the left and melted into the gravel driveway of Seeley Hall. The name was lettered on wrought-iron gates which barred further progress. The Conways peered into the grounds.

"This is it, then," Jerry said quietly. He led Jane across to a shallow bank and pointed to a gap in the bushes which formed a track close to the boundary hedge. "You hide up in there. If you lie flat you should be able to see through the lower part of the hedge, and you'll be out of sight should anyone come down the lane."

Jane pulled a wry face but obeyed without protest. She found a suitable position and settled down.

"Can you see the house?" he asked.

"Sure. Everything."

"Good," Jerry grinned. "You should have fun watching me do my stuff."

But Jane looked far from amused. "Jerry, don't go in," she implored. "Make some excuse if he invites you."

"O.K., but if I have to, give me 15 minutes." He stepped towards the gates. "And don't panic," he added.

But as he walked along the drive it was all he could do to live up to his own advice. He had the certain feeling that his approach was observed from the house although there was no sign of life behind the blank windows reflecting the glare of the midday sun.

He stepped up on to the porch and tugged at the ancient bell-pull. The muffled peal sounding within was drowned by the sudden, wild hammering of his heart.

To be continued

Head of metal



This head in plastic metal is among the works shown in the Society of Portrait Sculptors' exhibition at the Imperial Institute at South Kensington. It is entitled Mark and is by Emiel Hartman.

PALACE IN PARIS FOR UNESCO

New Paris headquarters for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation are going up. Of the three buildings, the largest is the Secretariat for the UNESCO staff, which is 90 feet high and has seven storeys. By means of partitions, the number of rooms can be varied from 600 to 800, and from each room there is a good view.

The offices have 85,000 square feet of glass, and the building also contains meeting rooms, a clinic, a restaurant and cafeteria, radio and television studios, besides printing and maintenance workshops.

A smaller building will house the permanent delegates of UNESCO's member States, and there is to be an assembly hall for its debates.

An American structural engineer is in charge of the work, which has been designed by a panel of distinguished international architects. One of the problems was to make the new addition to the Paris skyline fit harmoniously into the rest of the district, which was laid out in the 18th century.

THE BIBLE IN OUR MODERN LANGUAGE

In our issue of November 2 we stated that the translation of the New Testament for the new Modern Language Bible was complete, and that the sponsors were the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge.

We have since been informed that only three-quarters of this New Testament is as yet complete, and that the new Bible is being sponsored by the Joint Committee of the Churches, which has appointed the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge as its publishers.

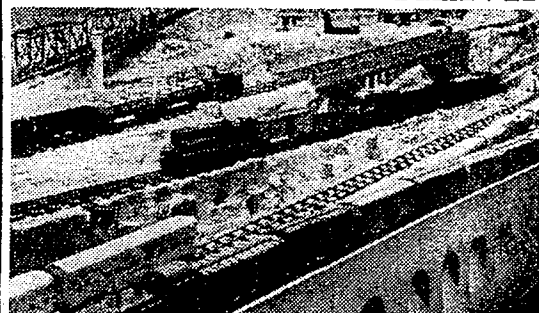
SEEING ROUND THE CORNER

Television screens have been installed for traffic policemen at one of the busiest road junctions in Paris. They will show how much traffic is approaching the junction before it would otherwise come into sight.

GAMAGES MAMMOTH MODEL RAILWAY

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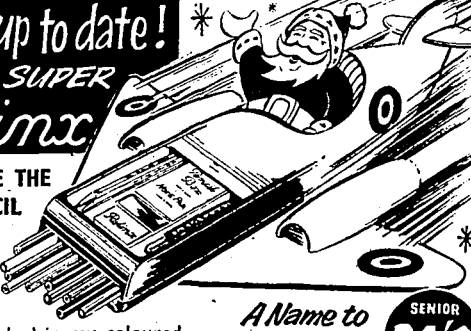
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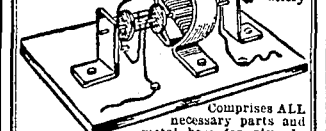
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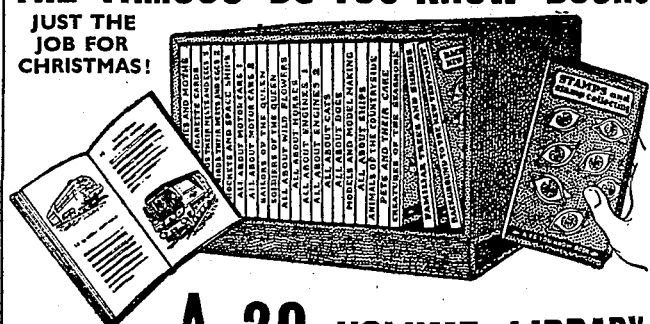
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SPORTS SHORTS

Ice hockey fans can expect a week of thrills from the visiting Russian team, who are Olympic and world champions. The 17 representatives from the U.S.S.R. open their five-match programme at Wembley on Saturday evening. On Monday they appear at Nottingham; Wednesday at Harringay; Thursday at Brighton; and conclude their brief stay with a match at Paisley on the following Saturday. Incidentally, another Russian ice hockey party has gone to Canada. Both tours are part of Russia's preparation for the world ice hockey championships at Oslo next February.

Round the houses

To collect funds for next year's Empire Games in Cardiff, a road race is to be held at Mountain Ash in Glamorgan on December 31. But it will be no ordinary race, for it will start at 20 minutes to midnight and will end a few minutes after midnight—the following year.

This event is an imitation of the famous Brazilian "Round the Houses" race which is held at São Paulo every New Year's Eve.

Ken Norris, Brian Kent-Smith, and Derek Ibbotson have all accepted invitations for the event.

When Judy Samuels, 14-year-old Hampshire schoolgirl, set up new Southern Counties senior and junior 100 yards free-style swimming records recently, she beat the senior figures of Fearnie Ewart, the 20-year-old Mermaid Club swimmer. Both girls were born in Ceylon, where their fathers were neighbouring tea-planters. They learned to swim together there and became friends. Their friendship has now become a friendly rivalry in British senior competitions.

His most exciting race

"WHAT was the most exciting race in which you have ever ridden?" That was the question a CN sports correspondent put to world-famous British motor-cycling ace Geoff Duke.

"No doubt about that one," Geoff replied with a grin. "Quite definitely it was the Belgian Grand Prix, back in 1951. I was riding a 500-c.c. Norton, and up against Italian Guzzi and Gilera machines with



RICARDO RODRIGUEZ, aged 15, must surely be the world's youngest racing driver. This Mexican boy has already won quite a reputation for his skill and daring in California at the wheel of 1500-c.c. sports cars. Among our own drivers, Peter Collins started at the age of 16, and Stirling Moss at 17, but only in 500-c.c. events, for the R.A.C. will not issue anyone under the age of 17 with a competition licence for racing in bigger cars.

maximum speeds of about ten miles per hour faster than my own.

"I realised from the lap-times in practice that I'd really have to 'get weaving' if I was to stand any real chance of beating their star men. And I knew, too, that I needed a really good start, so as to enable me to lead at the end of the first lap if possible. Luckily for me, the plan worked well. But only by riding flat out could I gradually draw away from my rivals by a mere one second per lap. And there were eight miles to each lap!

"Still, somehow I managed to finish the race 12 seconds in front of the nearest Italian. I don't think any other victory has ever given me quite so much satisfaction."

Two Russian tennis players will appear at Wimbledon next year. They will not be playing in the championship, though, but in the invitation junior tournament which takes place during the second week. Russia is taking to tennis on a big scale and officials and leading players have been to Wimbledon to study the world's leading players in action. Already some of the younger players are showing signs of great promise, among them being 13-year-old Irina Riazonova, the girl who is likely to play at Wimbledon.

Among the "possibles" is the sixteen-year-old Moscow school-girl, A. Dmitriyeva, who recently won the championship in the Students Sports Festival in Riga. For this achievement she was awarded the title of Master of Sport, the first tennis player to win the honour at her age.

From hockey to tennis

RITA BENTLEY went to Australia in 1956 with the English hockey team, and remained there for a time to gain first-class tennis experience. Returning home last summer, Miss Bentley concentrated on tennis, and her persistence is now bringing some success. She narrowly failed in the women's final at the Torquay covered courts tournament, when she was beaten by Joan Curry, who took the title for the fourth time. Miss Bentley, who is a P.T. instructor, will appear in four inter-county hockey games for Lancashire during the next few weeks. Then she will take a part-time P.T. post in London so that she can join the L.T.A. winter training sessions on the Queen's Club covered courts. Those international tennis honours are not far away.

SPORTING GALLERY

ALAN A'COURT

When Alan A'Court joined Liverpool from Prescott Cables five years ago, he appeared to have a long wait ahead for a place in the first team.

The young outside-left was reserve to the most complete footballer in Liverpool's ranks, Scottish international Billy Liddell. But Billy was wanted at centre-forward after a time and Alan was promoted to



regular League service in season 1953-4. His speedy, direct methods soon impressed. He played for England's Under 23 teams and for the Football League.

In the full England team, outside-left has long been a problem position and Alan A'Court was given his chance there a few weeks ago, when Tom Finney dropped out through injury. At 22, he has plenty of time to make the position his own.

BLACKPOOL Football Club are to tour Australia and the Far East at the end of the present season and may also play a match in New York. A party of 15 players is travelling by air and will play in Australia, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

Watching the Wizard

AN amusing little soccer story comes from international referee Jack Mowat. It occurred some years back, when Mr. Mowat was refereeing an all-star charity match in Belfast in which the one-and-only Stanley Matthews—the Wizard of Dribble—was appearing.

It seems that one of his linesmen was continually being caught out of position, and so, when he had the opportunity, Referee Mowat ran over to inquire whether he felt ill, or if anything was wrong.

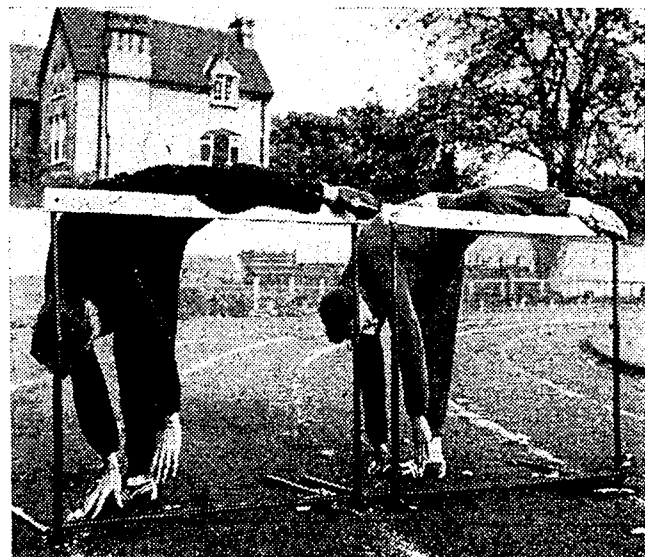
"I know, I know," the flustered linesman blurted out unhappily, "I'm just hopeless today. But I've never seen Matthews play before—and I just can't keep my eyes off him!"

THREE brothers Tayfield—Hugh, Arthur, and Cyril—played for Transvaal in their recent match with the Australian tourists at Johannesburg. Hugh Tayfield is the well-known Test off-spinner; Arthur was selected as twelfth man in one of the Tests against the M.C.C. last year; and Cyril has been a regular member of Transvaal teams.

On the target

DAVID PARISH, the national small-bore rifle champion, of Southwick, Sussex, has set up a world record by scoring 100 bulls with 100 shots at 100 yards.

From the man who did not miss to the boy who did. Fifteen-year-old Tony Lunn of Moseley was competing in the Warwickshire handicap pistol championships and once missed the target altogether. Tony was disgusted with himself—until he learned that his total was still good enough to win, and that he was believed to be the youngest competitor to have won the championship.



Stretching for victory

Hurdlers do some stretching exercises at Fenners, the famous Cambridge University ground.

CN Competition Corner

WIN A GIANT CHRISTMAS CRACKER!

FIVE enormous crackers—each three feet long and packed with toys, paper hats, balloons, and so on—are waiting to be won in this week's CN competition. Enter today—the contest is open to all under 17 living in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands, and it is free!

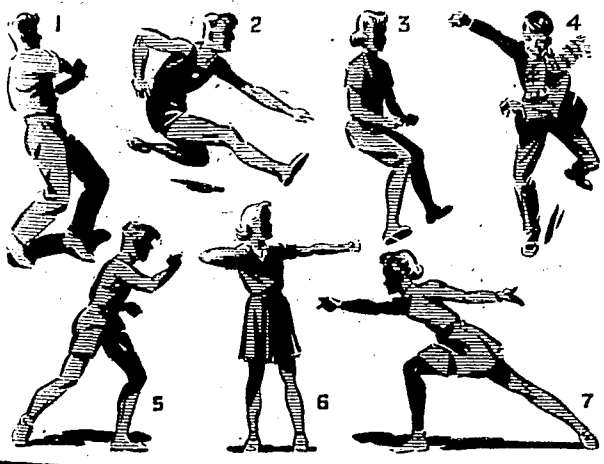
What to do: our artist has drawn the figures of seven young people engaged in seven quite different games and sports. All you have to do is decide which of the sports given in this list are shown: darts, cricket, bowls, netball, hurdlings, diving, horse-riding, skating, hop-scotch, leapfrog, boxing, archery, marbles, tennis, football, fencing, tug-of-war.

Write your answers in a neat numbered list on a postcard, add full name, age, and address, then ask an adult to sign the entry as your own unaided work. Attach to it the competition token (marked CN Token) from the back page of this issue, and post to:

CN Competition No. 29,
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.)

to arrive not later than Friday, December 6, the closing date.

Giant Crackers will be awarded, in time for Christmas, for the five best correct entries received, handwriting or printing according to age being taken into consideration. The Editor's decision is final.



KEEP DIGGING

THE foreman builder had been having a hard time answering the questions of a rather dull labourer. He had told the man to dig a pit and bury rubbish. Then the labourer asked what was to be done with the earth he had dug out of the pit.

Exasperated, the foreman said: "Keep digging the pit until it is big enough to take the rubbish and the earth."

NIGHT RIDE

ONE night, when Peter lay fast asleep, His little toy engine did softly creep

Away through the door and down the stair,
And into the silent garden where The fairies were waiting eagerly—
He'd promised them all a ride, you see!

The elves and fairies all held on tight.

While little toy engine raced through the night.

And how exciting it was to rush
As fast as the wind past flower and bush

And greenhouse and orchard! The fairies cried:
"Oh, thank you for such a wonderful ride!"

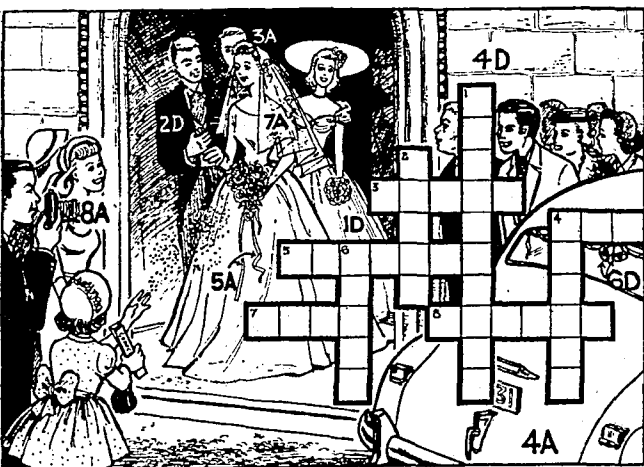
OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening Venus is in the south-west. In the morning

Mars and Jupiter are low in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it will appear at seven o'clock on the evening of Friday, November 29.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

MANY people imagine that the words *God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb* come from the Bible. The phrase sounds Biblical, but it is, in fact, an old French proverb.



MISSING NAMES

CAN you fill in the missing middle names of the following six writers?

HANS	ANDERSEN
GEORGE	SHAW
JOHN	WHITTIER
EDGAR	POE
ARTHUR	DOYLE
ADELAIDE	PROCTER

JACKO SLIPS UP WHEN MOTHER RETURNS



There had been a surprisingly early fall of snow, and Jacko decided to take advantage of it. "There may not be another chance," he said to Baby. "Come on." Taking three mats from the kitchen, Jacko, Baby, and Bouncer went off to the hill, and soon they were having a wonderful time on the snowy slopes. But that was until they were seen by their parents and Mother Jacko saw what was happening to her lovely mats. Jacko had "slipped up" that time.

BEDTIME TALE

ROVER IS A MODEL DOG

EVERY morning Rover would trot beside his young master as he made his way to school. He would sit by the gates until Billy went into the school then make for home.

One morning, however, just as he was about to leave, he saw another dog in the playground. Being a friendly creature, Rover squeezed through the gates and went to say hello. But no sooner had he done so than the other dog raced into the school itself.

Rover followed, but he could see no sign of the other dog. He padded slowly along the corridors and then came to a door which was slightly open.

He pushed his nose inside—and there was Billy sitting at a table with a number of other boys and girls busy with their drawing class. Rover gave a "woof" of welcome, and bounded across the room.

"Well, I never!" exclaimed the teacher. "Where on earth did he come from?"

"Please sir," stammered Billy. "He's my dog. He must have followed me. But I'll take him out straight away."

And he took Rover by the collar and began leading him to the door.

"Just a moment," called the teacher. "I've got an idea. Instead of drawing this vase of flowers you can draw the dog. I think you will find that much more interesting."

The boys and girls obviously thought so for they gave a cheer. Even Rover, as he was told to "sit", gave a "woof" of approval—but Billy just gave a sigh of relief.

"I've always said he was a good-looking dog," he thought. "But I never expected him to become a work of art!"

Wedding Day

Here is the usual scene outside a church after a wedding. See how quickly you can complete the crossword by finding words for the numbered clues and fitting them into their correct places. Example 3A, BRIDE, fits into 3 Across.

WHO AM I?

MY first is in PUSH but not found in PULL.

My second's in HEIFER, but not in the BULL.

My third may be found in both BETTER and WORSE.

My fourth is with PATIENT but not with NURSE.

My fifth is in BATTLE but not in WAR.

For my sixth, look in APPLE, but not in the CORE.

If to puzzle this out your head's in a whirl,

I'll tell you my whole is the name of a GIRL.

The answers to these puzzles are given in column 5

SPOT THE . . .

WORM-CASTS, those unsightly heaps so often seen on our lawns and on other stretches of turf. These are made by earth-worms, which are about four inches long. They have no sight, relying almost entirely on their sense of touch, and are sensitive to earth vibrations. Although their casts are a nuisance, earth-worms have some value, for they help refine and drain the soil.

OUT OF GEAR

HE was boasting about his new car. "It runs so smoothly that you can't feel it, and so quietly you can't hear it."

"Then how do you know when it is there?" asked a bored listener.

WISDOM

TWO cars and but a single tongue
By Nature's laws to man belong;

The lesson she would teach is clear:

Repeat but half of what you hear.

HOWLER

A SHEEP is mutton covered with wool.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Wedding day. Across: 3 Bride. 4 Car. 5 Ribbons. 7 Veil. 8 Camera. Down: 1 Bridesmaid. 2 Groom. 4 Church. 6 Bells.

Missing names. Christian, Bernard, Greenleaf, Allan, Conan, Ann.

It Sounds the Same. Pain, pane. Who am I? Sheila.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER
REAR ARCH
DANCE O
LB PETALS
LIMIT SET
LID DOE
OLD PENCE
MIDDLE HA
LEADS S
THEN SORE

JUST A FEW WORDS

- B A nonentity is a person or thing of no importance. (From Latin *non*, not, and *entitas*, being, existence).
- C To eradicate is to get rid of. (From Latin *eradicare*, to pull up by the root).
- B A narrator is one who tells of events: a story-teller. (From Latin *narrare*, to narrate).
- C Omnivorous means all-devouring. (From Latin *omnis*, all, and *vorare*, to devour).
- B An innovation is something new which has been introduced: a novelty. (From Latin *innovare*, to make new).
- A To aspire is to desire eagerly: to strive for high things. (From Latin *aspire*, to breathe towards).



LOOK, KIDS!

says Tony the Tiger

A FREE
COWBOY!



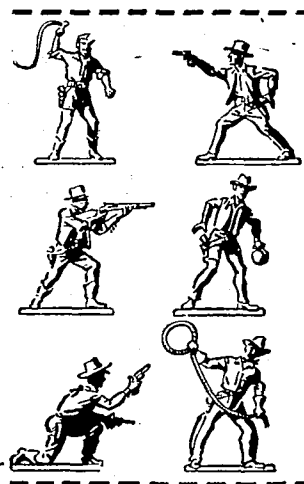
In every special packet of

KELLOGG'S

Sugar Frosted Flakes

One of these plastic figures comes in every special packet of Kellogg's Sugar Frosted Flakes. There's a set of six—cowboys, bandits, rustlers, every kind of Wild West character!

Collect as many as possible so you can swap them with your pals.



Start collecting right away!

THE OFFER IS FOR A
SHORT TIME ONLY

